COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION POLICY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND THE CENSUS CONGRESSMAN ADAM PUTNAM, CHAIRMAN



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Subcommittee Continues Review of Factual Data Analysis for Law Enforcement, Homeland Defense and National Security:

Examining the Privacy and Constitutional Implications of Factual Data Analysis as a tool to Combat Terrorism

What: Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census Subcommittee hearing: "Can the Use of Factual Data Analysis Strengthen National Security? –Part Two"

When: Tuesday, May 20, 2003, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building

Background:

The focus of this hearing is to discuss privacy, constitutional and legal implications of the Federal government's use of both the process and the results produced by factual data analysis. During the two previous hearings, the Subcommittee has reviewed past uses of data mining as well as examined federal proposals, including CAPPS II in screening airline passengers, which use factual data to identify potential terrorist activity, and enhance national security and law enforcement. The Subcommittee seeks to examine the challenge of enhancing homeland security while protecting the basic American tenets of privacy, confidentiality, and freedom.

One of the major conclusions to come out of the lapse in national security leading up to the attacks on 9/11 is that better information sharing and analysis could have led to

different results. The challenge now faced by government and law enforcement requires that these entities' technology systems be upgraded with the best tools available to improve communication and information sharing in an effort to avert such future lapses. While it is important that the Federal government utilizes all available resources to enhance national security, it is critical that at the same time we safeguard American values of personal freedom and privacy.

Witnesses:

Paul Rosenzweig, Senior Legal Research Fellow, Center for Legal and Judicial Studies, The Heritage Foundation

John Cohen, CO-Founder, President and CEO, PSComm LLC, Barry Steinhardt, Director, Technology and Liberty Program, American Civil Liberties Union

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